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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner : Not yet assigned
Group Art Unit : 1638
Applicants : Hirohiko Hirochika et al.
Serial No. : 09/721,114
Filed : November 22, 2000
For : NOVEL GENE INVOLVED IN BRASSINOSTEROID
RESPONSES

New York, New York
March 26, 2001

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO NOTICE
TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION

Sir:

This is in response to the January 25, 2001 Notice to File Missing Parts of Nonprovisional Application ("Notice"), a copy of which is enclosed. A Response is due by March 26, 2001*. Thus, this Response is timely filed.

* The last day for responding to the Notice is March 25, 2001, which falls on a Sunday. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.7, applicants may submit this response on the next business day.